



**US Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Pesticide Programs**

**Pesticide Registration (PR) Notice 2013-1
Silver Task Force North America**

May 1, 2013

PESTICIDE REGISTRATION (PR) NOTICE 2013-1

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NOTICE TO MANUFACTURERS, PRODUCERS, FORMULATORS, AND REGISTRANTS OF PESTICIDE PRODUCTS

Attention: Persons Responsible for Federal Registrations and Re-evaluations of Pesticide Products.

Subject: Silver Task Force North America

I. Introduction

This PR Notice announces the establishment of the Silver Task Force North America (“STFNA”) as an unincorporated nonprofit association under the District of Columbia Uniform Nonprofit Association Act of 2010.¹ The STFNA is an industry-wide association created to jointly develop data to support registration review under section 3(g) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (“FIFRA”).² This PR Notice discusses why the association was formed, why it is developing registration review data, and how interested and eligible registrants and applicants may participate in such data development. This PR Notice also identifies people to contact for additional information.

The EPA is using this PR Notice solely to inform pesticide registrants and applicants of the establishment of the STFNA. The agency does not intend this PR Notice to affect the terms of STFNA’s Joint Data Development Agreement or any amendments (the “Agreement”) thereto.

II. The Use of STFNA data under the Federal Regulatory Scheme

In October 2007, the EPA announced that in 2008 it would start to reevaluate all pesticide products that contain silver or silver compounds as the active ingredient (“Silver Products”), as a part of the registration review process that pesticide registrations must undergo every 15 years under FIFRA §-3(g).³ In June 2009, the agency published a Preliminary Work Plan (PWP) for Silver and Compounds as part of registration review. In December 2009, the Agency issued a Final Work Plan (FWP) that described potential risks to human health and environment from Silver Products and identified associated expected data needs.

On February 29, 2012, US EPA issued a data call-in notice for all Silver Products under FIFRA § 3(c)(2)(B)⁴ (“the DCI”). The DCI imposes new data requirements for Silver Products, including toxicity, ecotoxicity, environmental fate, and occupational exposure studies. All registrants who do not purchase an EPA-registered source of silver are responsible for satisfying the data requirements identified in the DCI. If a registrant does not satisfactorily address a DCI’s data requirements, the Agency may suspend the registrant’s affected registration(s).

¹ D.C. Code §§ 29-1101 to 29-1127.

² 7 U.S.C. § 136a(g).

³ *Id.*

⁴ 7 U.S.C. § 136a(c)(2)(B).

III. Objectives and Scope of STFNA

In August 2009, twenty then-current and prospective EPA registrants and distributors of Silver Products formed the U.S. Silver Task Force (“US STF”) to jointly address the issues raised in the Preliminary and Final Work Plans for Silver and Compounds and otherwise communicate and negotiate with the EPA regarding registration review. Since then, the US STF has met with the EPA several times.

In April 2012, members of the US STF recognized the need for a revised legal mechanism under which current and prospective member companies could jointly generate data in response to the DCI. In July 2012, members of the US STF established the STFNA as a new unincorporated non-profit association in Washington, D.C.

The STFNA has informed EPA that it intends to address the Silver DCI’s requirements. STFNA has also told EPA that it intends to develop any new data in Project Groups that consist of interested STFNA members and that members of the Project Group will select the study or studies to perform, develop the data, and fund the research. Although the STFNA states that it will own and assert rights to any and all data developed by the Project Groups, STFNA has also said that the members of a given Project Group will have a license to use the data developed by the Project Group, according to the terms of the STFNA Agreement. STFNA states that, under the terms of the STFNA Agreement, no member of the STFNA is required to join any Project Group, and any member that elects not to join a Project Group at the outset may join later, in accordance with conditions provided in the STFNA Agreement. Each STFNA member remains liable for satisfying any product-specific requirements imposed by the EPA, which are outside the scope of that covered by the STFNA Agreement.

IV. EPA’s Regulatory Position

The EPA has determined that development and submission of the required data is necessary to support applications for registration and existing registrations as reflected in various data requirements for Silver and Compounds.

V. Current Members of the Silver Task Force North America

Apyron Technologies
BASF Corporation
Bio-Gate AG
BioLab, Inc.
Calgon Carbon Corporation
Chemviron Carbon Ltd.
Clariant Corporation
Corning Inc.
Dow Chemical Company
Eastman Kodak Company
Enrich Products, Inc.
Fairey Industrial Ceramics, Ltd.
Fuji Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.

Ishizuka Glass Co., Ltd.
King Technology, Inc.
KX Technologies LLC
LiquiTech, Inc.
Mason Chemical Company
Microban Products Company
NanoBioMatters Industries S.L.
NanoHorizons Inc.
Noble Biomaterials, Inc.
Pool Products Packaging Corporation
ProEdge Dental Products, Inc.
RUDOLF GmbH
Sanosil International, LLC
sBioMed, LLC
Sciessent LLC
Sinanen Zeomic Co., Ltd.
Sterisil, Inc.
TaikiUSA Inc.
Thomson Research Associates International Ltd.
Thor Specialties, Inc.
Zodiac Pool Systems, Inc.

VI. Joining the Silver Task Force North America

The agency has set forth specific data requirements in the DCI, registrants may generate their own data, pay for certification with respect to citation of data, or join a Task Force. Any pesticide registrant or applicant who does not wish to pay for data compensation or generate their own data to satisfy registration review data requirements for Silver Products under FIFRA §3(g) may consider joining the STFNA. The EPA is not a member of or participant in the STFNA, but the agency has provided STFNA with specific criteria which must be satisfied in support of the DCI. The agency may provide appropriate guidance and assistance to the STFNA and Silver Registrants with respect to the development and submission of any new registration review data on Silver Products.

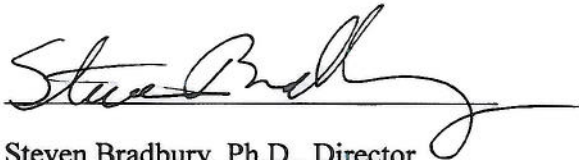
The STFNA is organized pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, and under the STFNA Agreement, each member company has the right to appoint one representative and one alternate to the STFNA's Administrative Committee and to each Project Group that the member elects to join. Prospective STFNA members who want additional information should contact the following person:

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VII. Agency Contact

For questions or additional information regarding STFNA please contact:

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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